

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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HABS
DC
WASH,
255-

**ADDENDUM TO
CONGRESSIONAL CEMETERY**

HABS No. DC-424

(Latrobe Cenotaphs)
Eighteenth and E Streets, SE
Washington
District of Columbia

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Note: In 1816 the vestry of Christ Church in Washington Parish reserved 100 plots for the burial of Congressmen; this gesture won the Washington Parish Burial Ground its common name, Congressional Cemetery. Also at this time, Congress directed the architect of the Capital Benjamin Henry Latrobe to come up with an appropriate marker for use over each grave. For those who died while in office, but were interred elsewhere, Latrobe designed an empty tomb or "cenotaph" to memorialize the deceased official. These were used until 1876-77.

Photographer and date unknown.

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GEOMETRY OF LATROBE'S DESIGN